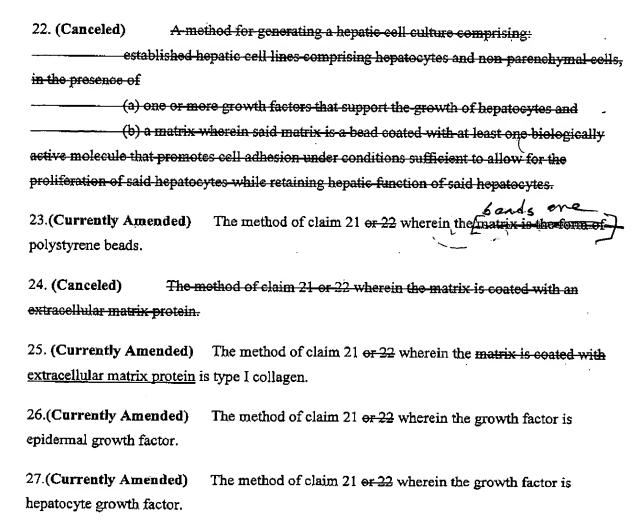
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Amendments to the Claims

- 21. (Currently amended) A method for generating a hepatic cell culture comprising: co-culturing hepatocytes and nonparenchymal cells derived from disaggregated liver tissue, in the presence of
- (a) one or more growth factors that support the growth of hepatocytes comprising epidermal growth factor or hepatocyte growth factor and
- (b) a matrix wherein said matrix is a beads coated with at least one biologically active molecule extracellular matrix protein that promotes cell adhesion under conditions sufficient to allow for the proliferation of said hepatocytes while retaining hepatic function of said hepatocytes.



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28.(Currently Amended) A population of hepatocytes and nonparenchymal cells, derived using a method comprising:

co-culturing hepatocytes and nonparenchymal cells, derived from disaggregated liver tissue, in the presence of

- (a) one or more growth factors that support the growth of hepatocytes comprising epidermal growth factor or hepatocyte growth factor and
- (b) a matrix wherein said matrix is a beads coated with at least one biologically active molecule extracellular matrix protein that promotes cell adhesion under conditions sufficient to allow for the proliferation of said hepatocytes while retaining hepatic function of said hepatocytes.

29. (Canceled)	A population of hepatocytes and nonparenchymal cells, derived using a
method comprising:	
co cul	turing established-hepatic cell lines-comprising hepatocytes and non-
parenchymal cells, in	the presence of
(a) one	or more growth factors that support the growth of hepatocytes and
——————————————————————————————————————	natrix wherein said matrix is a bead coated with at least one biologically
active molecule that promotes cell adhesion under conditions sufficient to allow for the	
proliferation of said h	epatocytes while retaining hepatic function of said hepatocytes.